



# GATOR GAZETTE

AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND → BARKSDALE AFB, LA → JULY 1999

## Medics cure training ills at medical Red Flag

By Belinda Bazinet

During Desert Storm, military experts feared there would be a record number of casualties. Fortunately, that never occurred.

Desert Storm did, however, change the way the medical field conducts training. "Medical Red Flag was developed based on lessons learned in Desert Storm," said Tech. Sgt. Daryl Paul, a class supervisor from the 384<sup>th</sup> Training Squadron at Sheppard AFB, Texas. "We learned that training was not consistent. Red Flag ensures that everyone receives standardized training that can be used during a deployment."

The medical Red Flag program trains experienced personnel

on how to set up and operate an air transportable hospital, as well as a refresher course on litter carries, aircraft loading and chemical warfare protection. Twenty-eight members of the 917<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron (as well as medical members from 11 other Reserve units) took advantage of that training last month.

"We're not here to test Air Force Specialty Code skills, but to teach the ability to survive," said Lt.

Col. Linda Southerland, a fourth-year volunteer instructor from the 917<sup>th</sup>. "Red Flag gives them hands-on training they won't receive in an everyday medical facility."

The first week of the two-week course is spent in the classroom. Week Two includes a mass casualty exercise which begins by erecting two 25-bed hospitals. "The entire medical team sets up the facility," Paul said. "That way, they will know what to do if deployed."

The mass casualty exercise began with a bang at 3 a.m. "Most of an actual war is conducted at night, so we try to get everyone used to getting up and getting going," Paul said. Throughout the early morning hours, an almost constant stream of moulaged patients walk or are carried into the hospital. There, medics recorded patient information and took vital signs, in between applying sterile dressings, starting intravenous fluids, and ordering lab work and X-rays.

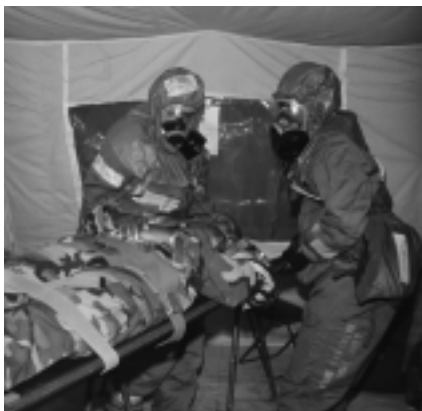
Everyone, from the instructors to the squadron members make the exercise as realistic as possible. The exercise puts a significant stress on the medical system and the individual players to make sure they can think clearly and rationally in all the different settings of a wartime scenario.

(Red Flag continued on page 4)



PHOTOS BY BELINDA BAZINET

**Maj. Robin Loucke seams the floor of the air transportable hospital together. The medical Red Flag training program prepares experienced medical personnel to set up and operate the air transportable hospital, the primary treatment centers during combat.**



**Two members of the 917th Medical Squadron prepare to lower a "patient" to a safer location during a chemical attack exercise. The medical personnel are required to mask themselves first before masking patients (simulated).**

## A message from the Commander

### Gator Gazette

917th Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
1000 Davis Avenue E  
Bldg. 6803, Rm. 229  
Barksdale AFB, LA 71110  
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UTA Sunday at 12 p.m. is the deadline for submitting articles to public affairs for publication in the following month's issue of the *Gator Gazette*.

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The Kosovo operation is winding down and many activated reservists are being released from active duty. Members of the 917th were not involved in the Presidential call-up this time, but the next world crisis may be different. Even if we don't get activated, it is very important that we have a good family support program in place that will ensure our family members left at home are properly cared for. We have recently instituted a "key spouse" program that will hopefully add to our

*I would like to commend the Wing plans personnel and transportation folks... Comments from one of the C-141 crews indicated that the support we provided them was the best they had ever experienced.*

*Col. Jack C. Ihle*

program. The key spouse will work closely with the unit team, be a link to the Family Support Center, listen to concerns of family members, and point them in the right direction. If you have a spouse that would be interested in working closely with your unit's first sergeant and commander to meet deployed member's family needs, please contact your first sergeant. Training will be provided by the Family Support Center.



The B-52 deployment to Cope Thunder, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska was a big success. I would like to commend the Wing plans personnel and transportation folks for a superb job of getting us out of town and back. Comments from one of the C-141 crews indicated that the support we provided them was the best they had ever experienced. Great job!

Finally, we had the pleasure of dedicating our new STARBASE facility this past month. This promises to be a great program for the base, our community, and most important, the 5th graders from our local area schools. One of the most impressive things associated with the ribbon-cutting were the numerous comments about how nice the facility is. Needless to say, I am extremely proud of our civil engineering personnel that took an old vacated youth center and transformed it into a first class instructional area. Thanks for a fantastic job.

## Chaplain's Corner:

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles R. Langford

*It is absolutely clear that God has called you to free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. GALATIANS 5:13*

Last Sunday was Independence Day. There were fireworks, parades, barbecues and picnics. We, indeed, have much to celebrate. We are free and blessed!

As reservists, we train and prepare so we can successfully defend our freedom and that of others against those who would oppress. We must be willing and able to confront the enemies of

## Freedom grows through love

freedom. Our abilities and determination cause many that would oppress others to reconsider.

Yes, if we are not vigilant, there is an enemy that will destroy us and the nation we love and serve. Each of us must be mindful of our tendency to abuse our freedom. We can easily transform our wants into needs and our desires into demands. It is not hard for any of us to place ourselves at the center of the universe. Only God's love, seen most clearly in Jesus, can sustain the desire to put others first and move us to serve consistently. Let us give God thanks for our freedom and ask that his love will continue to transform us that freedom may grow!

## In brief

**Supplies available for pickup**

These items were back-ordered by reservists over the last 120 days and need to be picked up as soon as possible. Listed below are the first five letters of the persons name and the items awaiting pickup:

Baumg	Trousers ww
Baumg	BDU jacket liner
Bratt	Liner, gortex
Brigh	Field jacket
Cates	Liner, gortex
Douga	BDU jacket liner
Flore	Ear defenders
Frank	BDU jacket liner
Johns	Ear defenders
Johns	Liner, gortex
King	BDU jacket liner
Mills	Liner, gortex
Parka	Headset
Parne	Liner, gortex
Reser	White coveralls
Stoke	Liner, gortex
Thoma	Blue Coveralls

**SGLI changes**

Changes in government life insurance programs, recently signed into law by President Clinton, now allows terminally ill veterans to receive accelerated death benefits. The veterans programs enhancement act established an option for the veterans affairs to pay these benefits under the SGLI and VGLI programs. The option allows terminally ill SGLI and VGLI policyholders to receive as much as half of

their coverage, up to \$100,000 during their lifetime. This benefit applies to retired or separated veterans who hold SGLI or VGLI policies. It does not apply to active duty personnel. Veterans wanting to claim this benefit should provide a letter to the office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance from their attending physician stating the veteran is terminally ill. For additional information on this or other VA benefits, contact your nearest VA office.

**Computer classes offered**

Computer classes will continue to be offered on Saturday and Sunday of the main UTA's. The class schedule is as follows:  
August:

Intranet/Internet/Outlook 98

Intro. to Word 97

Intro. to Powerpoint 97

To register, contact Senior Master Sgt. Margaret Mayweather at 456-9859.

**E-mail changes take effect**

The 917th e-mail system will migrate to the Barksdale domain on June 14. E-mail addresses will change to first name.last name@barksdale.af.mil. Contact lists and important e-mail should be saved to the hard drive. For more info, contact your computer managers.

**Fans for the needy**

A fan drive for the elderly will be in effect until July 11. Once the fans are gathered, they will be taken to the Bossier Counseling Unit who in turn will

distribute them to the local communities.

If you are interested in donating a fan or the money for the cost of a fan, please contact Master Sgt. Jorg Feliciano at 456-9488.

**UPAR training scheduled**

Unit Public Affairs Representatives training will be held on July 11 at 10 a.m. in the commanders conference room.

Any questions can be directed to Lt. Clay Sanford at 456-9181.

**Talent competition slated**

"Colors" is a base wide performing arts competition which is open to all officers, enlisted (both active duty and reserve), dependents and DoD civilians working on the Barksdale installation.

The competition is held in two phases, the semi-finals to be held on July 23 and the finals on July 24. The competition will be held in the Main Ballroom of the Barksdale Enlisted Club.

There are five performing categories, vocal, instrumental, dance, musical variety and non-musical variety. Categories may be merged or eliminated depending on participation.

The final auditions will be held on July 3 at Hoban Hall. Auditions start at 12 p.m. and contestants must arrive no later than 1 p.m. Contestants are responsible for providing their own accompaniment. (must be cassette if pre-recorded). For more information contact Airman Nigel Skeete at 456-5508 or 742-5952.

# 101 Days of Summer Campaign

By Master Sgt. Harry Bauer  
Ground Safety Manager

Another summer has come upon us. Plenty of activities and vacations are planned. The anxiety is high, time for the fun to begin. While you were planning your activities, did you factor in the risks that were involved? Granted, I can give you the typical canned article, do not do this or make sure the kids wear that protective device. We are all aware that too many individuals needlessly lose their lives or are injured during this time of year. It is on the 10 o'clock news, in the newspapers and is broadcasted on all the local radio stations. Many of the sad stories could have been prevented, if application of sound risk managing principles, or some may refer to as common sense applications, were implemented. Risk managing does not necessarily have to involve a lengthy drawn out process that takes forever and a day to accomplish. It can take just 5 minutes.

If you have a chance, take a look at the 101 Days of summer campaign on the safety pages on the Intranet <http://917safety/101days.htm>. There are plenty of posters and links to websites to find various summer-related safety items and topics. If these items and articles are not accessible, contact the safety staff via e-mail to [Harry.Bauer@barksdale.af.mil](mailto:Harry.Bauer@barksdale.af.mil) or stop by the office (Bldg. 6803, Room 216) for any additional assistance that you may need.

What is important is that we lessen or eliminate the risks that are involved in our summer time activities. One important item to remember is this "DO NOT ACCEPT ANY UNNECESSARY RISK!" "An ounce of prevention is worth the safety and well being of you and your family during this summer season. Have a great time on all of your summer activities.



PHOTOS BY BELINDA BAZINET

**Tech. Sgt. Michael Mazerat (left) and Staff Sgt. Todd Johnson practice litter carrying at Medical Red Flag.**

**Staff Sgt. Mary Odom, an instructor with the 348th Training Squadron, "amputates" Staff Sgt. Reginald Johnson's fingers for the Medical Red Flag exercise.**

**(Red Flag continued from page 1)**

"This training very much simulates a real world scenario," said Lt. Col. Charles Bourgeois, the class commander and a

pharmacist with the 917<sup>th</sup>. "This type of training improves our medical readiness within the squadron."

He also felt the exercise allowed the medical staff to encoun-



**Staff Sgt. John Noey apprehends a suspected terrorist during the Medical Red Flag exercise. Medical personnel are allowed to protect medical assets under the Geneva Convention.**



**Lt. Col. Charles Bourgeois ensures the air transportable hospital's stakes are securely tied.**

ter and treat wounds that they would not normally see at home. "You would not get terrorist or battle injuries at Barksdale. Here, we learned how to treat casualties under a chemical or biological attack," he said. This was a great learning experience."

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Michael Root, a biomedical engineer, agreed. "I normally work on medical machinery, but I've learned everything from

treating wounds and suturing to how to carry a litter," he said. "This training will definitely help me adapt to different situations."



# B-52s buzz the world

**By Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio**

An announcement was made in January that B-52s would continue to be around at least another 40 years. Could this mean more challenging and demanding roles for the B-52? As the active duty B-52s returned from Kosovo, the 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Squadron returned from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, where they participated in exercise Cope Thunder.

"Years ago, the B-52 would go in alone and unafraid, but as technology has advanced, it has become necessary for different aircraft to go in as a team," said Capt. Ken Wyzywany, a B-52 radar navigator. The exercise that ended on June 25, aimed to simulate the same wartime conditions pilots would face in real combat.

During the two-week exercise, aircrews were subject to every conceivable combat threat. The exercise began with fairly simple scenarios conducted in low-threat conditions. As the action progressed, scenarios became more complex and threat levels increased to simulate heavier anti-aircraft artillery and a variety of surface-to-air missiles.

"This exercise gives us access to the F-15s," said Col. Gerald Werth, 917th Operations Group commander. "We can do face-to-face briefings so we can learn their tactics and, in turn, they can learn ours." The expanse of the air space allows the B-52s to fly up to 50,000 feet instead of the usual 25,000 or below. This keeps the aircraft out of range from threats of enemy surface to air missiles and anti-aircraft artillery.

"Cope Thunder allowed us to practice like we would employ the B-52s," said Werth. "We want to be up there where the enemy can't reach us and we can't do that in the lower 48." Analysis indicates that most combat losses occur during an aircrew's first eight to 10 missions. The goal of Cope Thunder was to provide each aircrew with these first vital missions, increasing their chances of survival in combat environments.

"This exercise is a remotivator," said Maj. Tlar Freeman, a B-52 radar navigator. "We had a different flying environment and it sparked new interest because everything is a little different."



PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. JESSICA D'AURIZIO

**Staff Sgts. Slansky and Kirk Blankenship packing a parachute in the tail section of the B-52 which is used during landing.**



**Staff. Sgt. Brad Schoth and Capt Mike Hansen during land survival training at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.**



**Major Rafael Rodriguez, B-52 radar navigator, downloading the B-52 after a sortie during Cope Thunder.**

# Voices: *What do you do to stay cool during the 101 days of summer?*



**Staff Sgt. Thomas Liner**  
Security Forces Squadron  
"The 917th Security Forces motto is: hydrate or die."



**Tech. Sgt. Richelle Walter**  
Operations Support Squadron  
"I dress appropriately and drink lots of water."



**Tech. Sgt. John McClain**  
Mission Support Squadron  
"I stay cool by staying properly hydrated and by not allowing myself to be overexposed to excess heat."



**Staff Sgt. Tammy Dougay**  
Logistic Support Squadron  
"I always go home to Tennessee for the summer. You can breath up there."



**1st Lt. Tammy Norwood**, a nurse with the 917th Medical Squadron, takes a sample of **Lt. Col. Kevin Wolfe's** blood during the Bone Marrow Donor Registration drive on June 10. More than 25 wing members had blood drawn for sampling, with the goal of matching someone whose hope of survival depends on a bone marrow transplant.

## Community College of the AF Graduates

Congratulations to the following graduates for the 1998 and 99 classes:  
Master Sgts.

**Harry Bauer**, 917th Wing Safety  
**Eugene Shaw**, 917th Wing Personnel  
**Gene Wandling**, 307th RED HORSE  
Tech. Sgts.

**Candy Green**, 93rd Personnel  
**Dennis Britten**, 93rd Maintenance  
Staff Sgts.

**Odell Drake**, 917th Maintenance  
**Randy Ship**, 917th Medical  
**Victoria Beard**, 917th Medical  
**Michael Hale**, 917th Medical  
**Sonjia Ivy**, 917th Security Forces

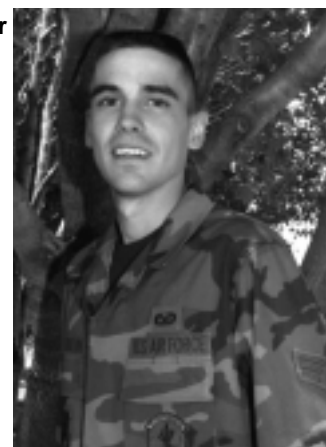


A Clergy day sponsored jointly by the 2nd Bomb Wing and 917th Wing was held June 11 at Barksdale AFB. Approximately 25 area clergy attended the event which better informed them of how appreciative the military is for their support. Also the clergy were briefed on what it is like for a chaplain to minister from the military perspective.



**Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter**  
**Master Sgt. Angela Roberson-King**  
917th Medical Squadron

**Airman of the Quarter**  
**Senior Amn. Michael Stratton**  
917th Maintenance Squadron



# Don't hoard, you'll be able to buy groceries in 2000

by Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — "We'll keep selling groceries, no matter what the year 2000 brings," a Defense Commissary Agency spokesman said.

Herb Greene of the agency public affairs office said the agency is working on fixing the so-called year 2000 computer bug at all 294 commissaries worldwide.

"We don't expect major problems," he said. "There may be a few embedded microchips we miss that won't allow us to open a time lock, for example, but we believe we've caught most of the problems."

The year 2000 problem, nicknamed "Y2K" and "millennium bug," refers to a past computer industry practice of writing years with just two digits — 1999 would be "99." Because of this digital shorthand, on Jan. 1, 2000, some computer systems and equipment that use microchips might read "00" as "1900."

This error could generate more inaccurate data and even cause systems to shut down. Computer systems that won't handle the year change correctly must be fixed or replaced. Systems that will work correctly are called "Y2K-compliant."

The commissary agency has been working on Y2K fixes since it became aware of the potential problem several years ago, Greene said.

Agency specialists identified mission-critical systems early and will have them all Y2K-compliant by October, said Stanton H. Ferguson Jr., the DeCA Year 2000 program manager. Mission-critical systems are those that allow the agency to sell groceries, to restock and to pay vendors, he said. DeCA has completed testing of the integrated scan-

ning system to ensure it will work after Jan. 1, 2000, officials said.

The agency has also worked with credit card and debit card providers to ensure these services will continue to be available to the 11 million customers worldwide.

The agency has also considered that others may not be as far along in stomping out the millennium bug.

"Contingency plans have been developed to provide detailed procedures for unanticipated Y2K disruptions and to provide for continuity of operations should the unexpected occur," Ferguson said.

"Uninterrupted power sources in the stores provide backup electricity. (This will) ensure registers and electronic payment systems continue to operate."

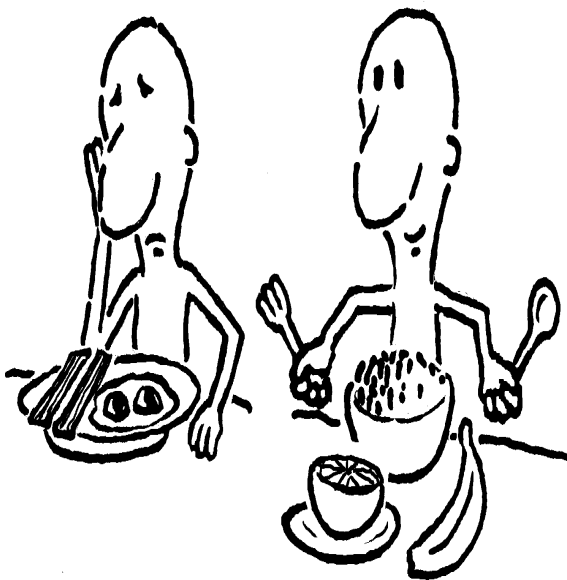
Agency employees are checking into all other areas of the stores to ensure every-

thing is Y2K-compliant. This includes fire and security alarms, refrigeration monitoring systems and telephone systems. Officials are fixing or replacing systems as needed.

DeCA works with thousands of vendors worldwide. Officials are also working with suppliers to ensure the interface between the agency and the vendors continues to operate in 2000.

Bottom line, said officials, is that service members do not need to run out and stockpile groceries.

"We've worked through hurricanes, floods and all sorts of natural disasters," Greene said. "Our people are committed to getting groceries to military people. We'll continue to do so."



## SERVICES

### 917th Military Personnel Flight

Bldg. 6803, Room 140, ext. 9205

#### Saturday

7 - 11 a.m. - Newcomers in-processing.  
11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)

#### Sunday

7 - 8 a.m. - Closed for training.  
8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)  
2:30 - 4 p.m. - Closed for training.

**NOTE: Customer Service Functions include in & out processing, ID cards, DEERS, DD93s, SGLI, Vehicle Decals, Record Reviews, etc.**

### Base Billeting

Bldg. 5155, 456-3091/3092

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week  
(Reservations required)

### Chaplain

Bldg. 6803, Room 239, 456-9179

Saturday & Sunday - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Red River Dining Hall

Bldg. 4631

Breakfast - 5:30 - 6:30 a.m.

Lunch MS - 11 - 1

47FS - 11:45 WG - 11

MSS - 11:45 93 BS - 11:15

CES - 12 SPS - 12:15

Shuttle service to the dining hall runs every 20 minutes starting at 11 a.m.. Pick-up points are Bldg. 6850 and Bldg. 6825 (northeast side of Bldg. 6803)

**NOTE: You must show ID card, newcomer's letter or DD form 1172.**

### Family Readiness

#### Center

Bldg. 4713

Saturday & Sunday - 8 - 11 a.m.

### Military drivers license

Military drivers license issue is available on the main UTA in bldg. 6825, Rm. 240. Issue hours are as follows:

Saturday 10 a.m. - noon

Sunday noon - 2 p.m.

### Lodging

For information on official or space A lodging call 1-888-AF-LODGE. Once the automated system answers key in the first three letters of the base you are trying to reach.

### Military Pay

UTA hours of operation:

Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sun. 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

# 917th Wing Training Schedule

## July UTA 10-11

Time	Event	Location	Participants
<b>Saturday</b>			
0600	UTA prayer breakfast	Red River Inn Dining Hall	Everyone welcome
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned unit	Personnel assigned
0700	Wing staff meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	All unit commanders
0700	Short fly physicals	Flight surgeon's office	Flyers
0700-0830	Intro -- all newcomers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227 (auditorium)	All newcomers
0730-0800	Physicals	Inside base hospital foyer	See phys exam monitor
0700-1000	Body fat measurements	Base hospital, Family practice clinic	
0700-1030	Immunizations	Base hospital	
0800-1000	Chem. Warfare Refresher	Hanger 7	As scheduled
0900	Anti-terrorism training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	Everyone welcome
0900	OJT training mtg.	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123	Unit training monitors
0900-1100	Intro. to Access 97	Base education	Scheduled personnel
0930, 1030 & 1330	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17	As scheduled
1000	First sergeants meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	First sergeants
1000	Unit deploy. managers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	As assigned
1200-1430	Immunizations	93rd Hanger	All welcome
1300	Wing safety training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	Unit safety reps.
1300	HRDC meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	Unit representatives
1300-1500	Intro. to Word 97	Base education	Scheduled personnel
1430	LSSQ commanders call	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	Assigned personnel
1500	MSSQ commanders call	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	Assigned personnel
<b>1550-1615</b>	<b>Sign-out 1550 -- LG</b>	<b>1600 -- MS</b>	<b>1610 -- CES, MSS, WG</b>
<b>Sunday</b>			
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned Unit	Personnel assigned
0715	Devotional service	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 214	Everyone welcome
0800	Initial CW training	Hanger 7	Scheduled personnel
0800	Chief's meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	All chief's
0800	Human Relations	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	As needed
0800-1200	EO 2000	Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor	As needed
0830 & 1230	EOC testing	Bldg. 4314, 3rd floor (by Burger King)	Scheduled by unit
0900	Substance Abuse	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	As needed
0900	Unit advisory council	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	Unit representative
0900	Intranet Web Page	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123 (T NET)	Personnel assigned
0900	Catholic Mass	Base Chapel 2	Everyone welcome
0900	Jena construction meeting	Bldg. 4714, conference room	Assigned personnel
0900-1100	Introduction to Excel 97	Base education	Scheduled personnel
1015-1100	Protestant services	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227 (auditorium)	Everyone welcome
1030	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17	As scheduled
1100	ROA meeting	Officer's Club	All assigned officers
1300	Eyeglass inserts	Bldg. 4845 (opposite main entrance to base hospital)	
1430	SORTS meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105	Unit commanders
1515	47th commanders call	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227	Assigned personnel
<b>1550-1615</b>	<b>Sign-out 1550 -- LS</b>	<b>1600 -- MS</b>	<b>1610 -- CES, MSS, WG</b>

## UTA Schedule

Main	Alternate
Jul. 10-11	Jul. 17-18
Aug. 7-8	Aug. 14-15
Sep. 11-12	Sep. 18-19
Oct. 2-3	Oct. 16-17
Nov. 6-7	Nov. 20-21
Dec. 4-5	Dec. 11-12
Jan. 8-9	Jan. 22-23
Feb. 5-6	Feb. 12-13
Mar. 4-5	Mar. 11-12
Apr. 1-2	Apr. 8-9

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